

8TH APRIL 1938.

Mr H. Willoughby Ellis drove Miss D. Kirk and me down to this locality and we found the colony in good condition; many ♂ ♀ were out along the bank on both sides of the birch tree.

No. 45. *Dendrophilus punctatus*, Hbst. Very few myrmecopiles were to be seen; the nest was not packed, and little could be done. Miss Kirk and Mr Ellis took two specimens of the above from the refuse we had collected and sieved.

In connection with a few of these insects one may mention:—

No. 13. *Quedius brevis*, Er. Its larvae and pupae are frequently present; larvae taken home, and placed with some refuse from the nest in plaster cells have pupated and emerged from the pupae in 17 days. Pupae taken home, and isolated in plaster cells, have produced on several occasions the Chalcid, No. 25, *Eulophus amempsimus*, Walker.

No. 28. *Spalangia erythromera*, Först. This Chalcid, which was new to Britain when I first took it in a *fuliginosus* nest in 1906, I have reared from the pupae of No. 3, *Phyllomyza lasiae*, Collin, and No. 29, *Milichia ludens*, Wahl., from this colony. From No. 29, since the publication of "The Guests." The parasite is only to be found in the nests of *fuliginosus* (as are its hosts), and it is partly on friendly terms with the ants, occasionally tapping antennae with them.

No. 36. *Dendrophilus pygmaeus*, L. This species is the regular guest of *Formica rufa*, L., indeed, the only records I know of it with *fuliginosus* are the two occasions I took it in this colony.

No. 43. *Neophyllomyza fagicola*, Hendel. This little fly was first described from Austria in 1927. I took it first, new to Britain, in this colony in 1925. It only occurs with *fuliginosus*, with which ant I have also taken it at Wimbledon Common and Windsor Forest. It is first recorded for Britain in "The Guests."

No. 45. *Dendrophilus punctatus*, Hbst., was first taken in this nest on our last visit. It is chiefly found with *fuliginosus*, but also in other ants' nests and various other places.

EARLY STAGES OF INDIAN LEPIDOPTERA.

By D. G. SEVASTOPULO, F.R.E.S.

(Continued from Vol. xlix, p. 125.)

Buzura suppressaria, Guen. (Noctuidae).

Head lobed, mottled brown. Ground colour mottled brown. 1st somite lobed. 2nd to 11th somites with a pair of pale dorsal spots. 11th somite with a transverse black stripe. Pale lateral tubercles on 7th and 8th somites. Spiracles red. Anal plate and claspers reddish.

Another form has the ground colour dark green with a darker dorsal stripe and dark suffusion between the somites. A lateral patch on the 3rd somite, a transverse stripe on the 11th and the anal claspers black.

Pupa very dark purple, almost black. Abdomen ending in a long anal spike. Subterranean.

Foodplant.—*Cassia* sp. and *Lagerstroemia indica* (Crape Myrtle).

Described from a full fed larva found in Calcutta 9.xi.31, buried itself 11.xi.31, and a female emerged 11.i.32.

Hampson describes the green form only and says that the larva of the female is paler than that of the male. I have not observed this.

Moore, *Lep. Ceylon*, III, plt. 188, figs. 1, 1a, b, c (as *B. strigaria*).

Agathia lactata, F. (*Geometridae*).

Head brownish. Ground colour dark green dorsally suffused with dull reddish purple. 1st somite divided into two lobes and posterior somites slightly swollen. Very like the new growth of Oleander on which it feeds.

Pupa in a spun together leaf. Buff coloured with dark dorsal markings.

Foodplant.—*Nerium oleander*.

Described from a full fed larva found in Calcutta 6.xii.31, pupated 9.xii.31, and a female emerged 23.xii.31.

Hampson's description is "larva green with dorsal prominences on 1st and 11th somites. Pupa yellowish green above, green below, the abdominal somites black speckled," and this is copied by Seitz, except that the dorsal prominences are said to be on the "prothorax and 8th (?) abdominal somite."

Moore, *Lep. Ceylon*, III, plt. 197, figs. 1a, b.

Sylepta derogata, F. (*Pyralidae*).

Head brown, legs black. Ground colour green. 1st somite with two black dorsal spots. A white spiracular line. Clothed with sparse hair. Lives in a spun together leaf. Before pupating the larva turns pink.

Pupa reddish brown in a spun together leaf.

Foodplant.—Hollyhock.

Described from a full fed larva found in Calcutta 6.iv.32, pupated 9.iv.32, and a male emerged 15.iv.32.

Fletcher, *Some South Indian Insects*, plt. xxxv, figs. 2, 3, 4.

NAMES OF MICROLEPIDOPTERA.

By T. BAINBRIGGE FLETCHER, R.N., F.L.S., F.R.E.S., F.Z.S.

(Continued from p. 54.)

5. *OXYPTILUS BRITANNIODACTYLUS*, Gregson 1869.

Oxyptilus britanniodactylus, Gregson, Entom., IV, 305-306 (viii, 1869).

Oxyptilus teucarii, Knaggs, Ent. Ann., 1870, p. 143 (i, 1870).

Oxyptilus teucarii, "Jordan": Rebel, Cat. Pal. Lep., II, 71, No. 1321 (1901).

Oxyptilus heterodactylus, Meyr., Rev. Handb., p. 450, No. 4 (1928).

Our *Teucrium*-feeding *Oxyptilus* cannot be called *heterodactylus*, Villers. De Villers, who described it as *P[halaena] A[lucita] heterodactyla*, Linn. Ent., II, 535, No. 1093 (1789), was not the original describer but merely copied the description from Müller, who described as *Phal[aena] Alucita heterodactyla*, *Fauna Ins. Fridrichsdal.*, p. 59 (1764), a Plume from Denmark. I do not think that it is safe to apply the name *heterodactyla*, Müller 1764, to our *Teucrium*-feeder, as this *Oxyptilus* apparently does not occur in Denmark (it is not included in four Lists of Danish species, the latest in 1930). Müller's description is very vague—merely "black with white spots"—and of the known Danish Plumes it seems to apply best to *Pselnophorus brachydactylus*, Kollar. The name, *Alucita heterodactyla*, Hw. 1811, taken from Villers, for the English *Teucrium*-feeder, is a primary homonym of *Alucita heterodactyla*, Müller 1764, and hence invalid, as are all subsequent